

The Old Straw Tick

By Fred Hardy

When I was a young boy, we slept on a straw tick. This was used as a mattress. It was laid on the bed springs and the blankets and sheets were laid over the top of it to make a bed.

About once a week, mother would have to move the straw around to round it out again. If she didn't there soon would be a hole where your butt end would stay all night.

Every fall after the grain had been threshed, fresh straw would be brought and the old straw would be dumped and burned and new straw would replace it. It was always fun to sleep on newly refilled tick for a little boy anyway. It was always quite high or it seemed to be. It would take a week or two for it to settle down. I hope my children appreciate the blessings of having good beds to sleep on.

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